

Information about your water, drainage, wastewater and solid waste utility services.



## Holiday Collection Schedule

Seattle's Recycling and Disposal stations will be closed and there will be no garbage, food and yard waste or recycling collection on Thanksgiving Day, November 24. Thursday customers will be picked up on Friday, and Friday customers will be picked up on Saturday that week. Collections will be on regular schedule during the weeks of Christmas and New Year's Day.

## Snow/Ice Collections

During snowy or icy weather, check your local news or [www.seattle.gov/util](http://www.seattle.gov/util) to see if there are any delays in your collection.

## Report Missed Collection

You can report a missed garbage, food and yard waste or recycling collection after 6 p.m. on the day it was missed online at [www.seattle.gov/util](http://www.seattle.gov/util) or by calling **206-684-3000** the next business day.



## Get Help with Your Bill!

Did you know that you could get 50 percent off your Seattle Public Utilities bills for the next 18 months? Only income-qualified customers are eligible.

For example, if you're a family of four, making less than \$4,813 a month, you may qualify. Call **206-684-0268** or go to [www.seattle.gov/mybill](http://www.seattle.gov/mybill) to get started.

Residents living in federally subsidized housing, including SHA (Seattle Housing Authority), Section 8, and KCHA (King County Housing Authority) are not eligible.

## Compost Holiday Greens

Seattle residents can compost trees and greens free of charge between December 26, 2011 and January 9, 2012.

### At Recycling & Disposal Stations

Trees should not exceed eight feet in length and must be free of decoration so they can be turned into compost for local parks and gardens. Trunks should not exceed four inches in diameter. The stations will accept up to three trees per vehicle for free. Find station locations and hours at [www.seattle.gov/util](http://www.seattle.gov/util) or **206-684-3000**.

### At the Curb

Food and yard waste subscribers can put trees and greens out on their regular collection day. Cut trees into sections, six feet long or shorter, with branches trimmed to less than four feet to fit into the collection trucks. Bundle each section with sisal string or twine (not plastic). Decorated, flocked and plastic trees are not recyclable, and will be charged as extra garbage.

### At Apartments

Multi-family buildings can put out one tree next to each food and yard waste cart at no extra charge each collection day.





## Keep the Chill Out!

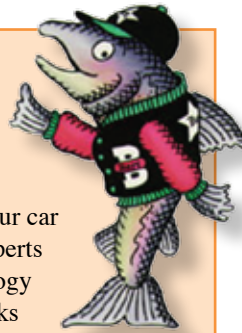
Each winter, homes are damaged due to water pipes that freeze and burst. By taking a few simple precautions, you can help save yourself from the mess, money and headaches of burst frozen pipes.

### Before the Cold Hits

- Insulate pipes in your home's crawl spaces, basement and attic. Exposed pipes are more susceptible to freezing. The more insulation you use, the better the protection.
- Heat tape can be used to wrap pipes. Closely follow the manufacturer's installation and operation instructions.
- Seal leaks and close foundation vents to minimize cold air entering your house and freezing pipes. Open vents again in the spring to prevent dry rot.
- Drain and disconnect garden hoses and insulate hose bibs.
- Know where your water shut-off valve is located.

**Free!**

## Bert's Auto Leaks Class



Help Bert the Salmon keep oil and other fluid leaks from your car from harming our local waterways and wildlife. Join the experts at South Seattle Community College's Automotive Technology Program for a FREE auto leaks class. Learn where most leaks occur and how to fix them.

Classes are offered on Saturday's from **9 a.m. to 1 p.m.** on the following dates:

**2011: November 12, December 10**

**2012: January 14, February 11, March 10**

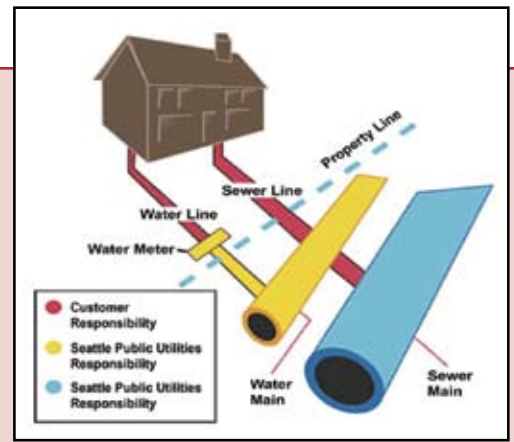
Email [anthony.matlock@seattle.gov](mailto:anthony.matlock@seattle.gov) or call **206-386-9746** to register.

Check out our website [www.seattle.gov/util/cartips](http://www.seattle.gov/util/cartips) for more information on properly maintaining your automobile to protect our waterways.

## Heating Oil Tank Insurance

**Free!**

Has your heating oil tank seen better days? Here's a deal for homeowners who want to protect the environment as well as their pocketbooks. Homeowners can register for FREE pollution liability insurance. This valuable insurance will cover up to \$60,000 in cleanup costs if your tank leaks and causes a problem. But you have to register to get the insurance. Call the Pollution Liability Insurance Agency at **1-800-822-3905** or visit [www.plia.wa.gov](http://www.plia.wa.gov) for more details.



## Storm Season Tips

### Lessen Chance of a Sewer Back-up

Did you know you are responsible for the maintenance of your side sewer? A side sewer is the section of pipe that carries wastewater from your home or building's plumbing system to the public sewer main (usually located under the street). If your side sewer is clogged, it may not be able to handle rain that gets in it during storm season, causing a sewage backup in your home. Keep your sewer line clear and repair it if needed. Check out our brochure "*Troubleshooting Your Side Sewer*" at [www.seattle.gov/util/sidesewer](http://www.seattle.gov/util/sidesewer).

### Holiday Cooking and FOG

Remember that Fats, Oil and Grease (FOG) can wreck the holiday spirit by clogging up your side sewer. Always dispose of them in the trash rather than down the drain. For more info, check out "*A Side Sewer Saga*" video at [www.seattle.gov/util/sidesewer](http://www.seattle.gov/util/sidesewer).

### Lessen Chance of Flooding

- Keep leaves and debris out of drains, ditches, culverts or ravines on and near your property.
- Clean and maintain your gutters and downspouts, and direct flows from downspouts away from your foundation but not toward your neighbors.
- Repair pavement settling on your property that affects drainage.
- Ensure that retaining walls are properly functioning.
- Create "flow paths" in your yard where water can flow safely during a storm.
- Seal walls in basements with waterproofing coating.
- If you have floors below street level, consider installing a sump pump.

### Go Online for More Info

- Seattle Public Utilities has lots of great info at [www.seattle.gov/util/storm](http://www.seattle.gov/util/storm)
- Take Winter by Storm by visiting [www.takewinterbystorm.org/flood](http://www.takewinterbystorm.org/flood)
- Email questions to [SPUfloodquestions@seattle.gov](mailto:SPUfloodquestions@seattle.gov)

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